

Our first Daytime Meeting was a resounding success! Plus new AED for the clubhouse

Hello everyone – what a momentous month April has been so far. As all should know by now, the Board of Directors in recent months discussed, debated, and finally voted to move our monthly General Meeting to the first Saturday of the month, from 1:00 to 3:00 at Eagles' Aerie #3 at 4810 South Tacoma Way in the heart of Tacoma. We held our very first such meeting on Saturday April 7th and I have to say it was a resounding success.

Turnout was tremendous. It was nice seeing not only lots of smiling faces of those regulars who have attended our past meetings on Wednesdays but many folks who for various reasons were never able to attend our nighttime meetings before. The Eagles' Club offered us a wonderful annual contract to use their facility and have welcomed us in with open arms. Our very first meeting presentation was in fact given by Eagles Trustee and Past Worthy President, John Coyne. He provided some history and background of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, how they came to be, and what their core values are. It turns out, that outside of radio itself, our organizations have a lot in common indeed! A strong sense of community, a desire to help others in society at large, and being compelled to reach out to our youth being key tenets of both groups.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



DAVE W7UUU

So for any who were not able to attend on the 7th, by all means don't be shy! We'd love to welcome you at the May 5th meeting at the new location. Our presentation, in keeping with Mother's Day,

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will highlight women in radio – not just amateur radio, but radio in general and how our field of interest is not just a men's club and never has been. I look forward to seeing everyone for the upcoming meeting.

In other news, I'm pleased to announce that the clubhouse will soon be fitted with a state-of-the-art AED device from a Redmond company called Physio Control, the industry leader in life-saving devices such as this. What is an AED, or Automated External Defibrillator? It's a device used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. They are a very sophisticated, but very easy to use medical device that can analyze the patient's heart rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or "defibrillation" to help the heart reestablish an effective rhythm to keep the patient alive.

Sudden cardiac arrest is among the leading causes of death in the United States. Statistically, more than a third of a million people will suffer a cardiac arrest, or heart attack, this year. Currently the only medical technology to restore a heart rhythm during cardiac arrest is an AED. And modern computerization of such devices has now made it possible for laymen (with basic training) to effectively save the life of someone stricken with cardiac arrest, while awaiting professional medical care to arrive. As an ever-aging population, this is an important addition to our clubhouse, and being portable, can be brought to other events such as Field Day.

No acquisition such as this happens in a vacuum only involving a single person. It really takes a team to work through the process of establishing the need, presenting core concepts to the Board, Officers, and Membership, investigating purchase options, product offerings, training that will be required, and so on. This has been an involved process to say the least.

Therefore I would like to call out the members who helped make this happen. My apologies to any names I'm forgetting from past pushes to accomplish this goal, all such input over the past couple of years has been helpful. Bob Heselberg K7MXE spearheaded many initial attempts to get organizations to donate gear (none of which came to fruition), and did a great deal of research on brands and models of AED devices. Bruce Hanson WE7P was also a significant contributor to this effort, coming up with brand options as well as options for recertified devices etc. And of course a big thanks to Secretary Mike Finnie W7MWF for his many communications with the AED team as the choices were filtered out. Rich Patrick KR7W has kindly offered to lead the building of a dedicated First Aid and AED Safety Center in the clubhouse to accommodate the new device, as well as to consolidate our other first aid supplies into one central location.

But in my estimation, it was the presentation given by Verna Lilly KF7SCB, herself a nurse, at our April 7th meeting that really turned the tide for finally making this purchase. She spoke to the membership for only 20 minutes or so but in that short time, gave such a concise, impassioned, and positive pitch on just how valuable and essential this device could prove to our membership going forward. Speaking for myself, I can say her speech turned me from being ambivalent on the topic, to being completely sold and wanting to be first on the list to sign up for training. Kudos to Verna for really making the concept and need for an AED so clear, accessible, and urgent to our members.

The device has been purchased as of this weekend, ordered by Bob K7MXE. It is a Physio Control Lifepak CR Plus, fully automatic device, factory recertified to meet 100% of UL and medical requirements, with all new consumables (batteries, pads, etc.). Our club was able to acquire this device at roughly half the cost of new, but while still meeting all current requirements for safety and functionality, with a full factory warranty. You can see a photo of the device below or by [following this link](#).

For anyone interested in signing up for the optional training, there is a signup sheet at the clubhouse for an upcoming date when members of the Tacoma Fire Department will be on hand to give a class in the operation of the AED device. I am happy to report I indeed managed to be the first on the list, and I highly encourage any members who are often at the clubhouse or attend events such as Field

Day to stop in on a Saturday morning and get your name on the list. Or just email me or any other club Officer to get your name on the list.

In closing, I wish you all a great rest of your month and may all of our recent April showers soon brighten the Northwest with May flowers. See you all on May 5th.

Dave W7UUU

Ready to Save a Life

Designing this particular device to be intuitive and efficient, the Lifepak includes some key features to help close the time between collapse and life-saving defibrillation.

Studies show that the less time left between CPR and defibrillation can help to increase survival chances, the Lifepak range boasts a 1.33 seconds to shock feature, the fastest delivery of defibrillation on the market.

Key Features

- Pre-connected electrodes for quick application
- Easy to follow instructions including calming voice prompts
- Built to the tough specifications of emergency medical services teams, it withstands rough treatment and can travel without damage
- Uses an easy-to-change CHARGE-PAK battery system for increased convenience
- Also available in semi-automatic 360 Joule shock ability – the highest on the market
- Physio Control features



ADAPTIV biphasic technology

The CR Plus Fully-Automatic AED adapts the strength of the electroshock therapy to the needs of the patient. By analyzing the effectiveness of previous treatment, the ADAPTIV software will alter the shock therapy and will provide an escalating shock to increase the chances of survival.

CHARGE-PAK

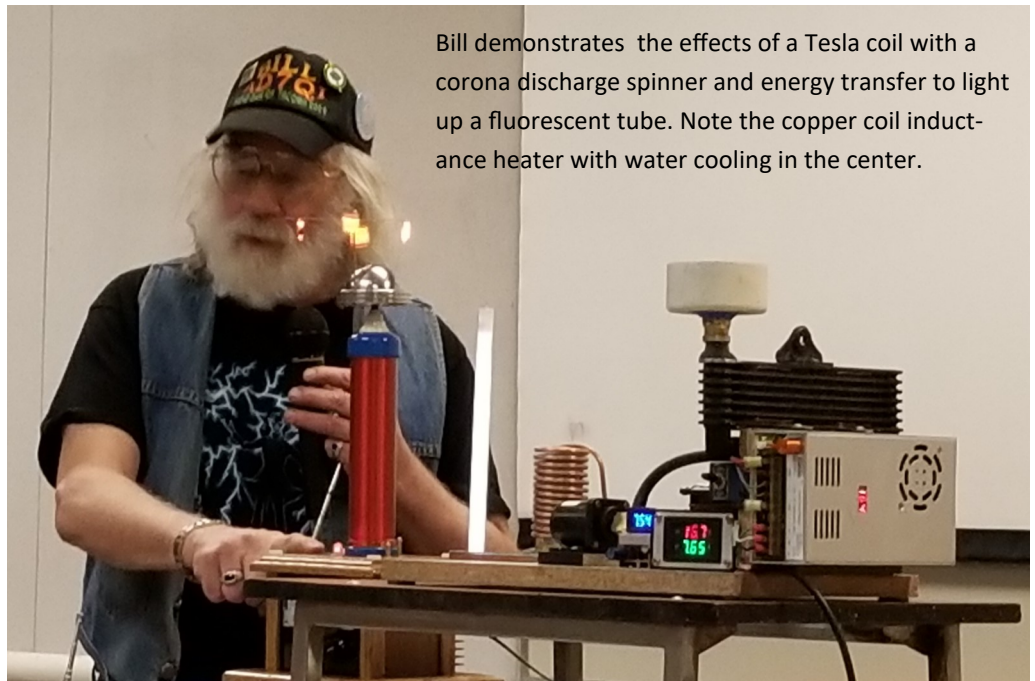
The Physio Control CHARGE-PAK uses a built-in system to ensure the CR Plus is always fully charged and ready to be used in the event of a cardiac arrest. Synced replacement dates for both charger and electrodes means keeping up with the maintenance on your life-saving device has never been easier, giving you peace of mind that your AED is ready to be used at all times.



SEAPAC – NORTHWESTERN DIVISION ARRLCONVENTION: The Northwest's Largest Ham Convention". SEA-PAC is June 1, 2 and 3, 2018. The ARRL Northwestern Division Convention Seaside Convention Center, 415 First Avenue, Seaside, OR 97138. Best venue in the Country...for Hams and their families and it's at the beach!! Registration and schedule can be found at: <https://www.seapac.org/>

Bill Wright AD7QN, Sorcerer's Apprentice

Periodically Bill entertains the General Meeting attendees with what can only be described as a magic show. His interest in all things Nicola Tesla provide an informative, interesting, and often startling demonstration of basic and advanced concepts electronic. These demonstrations are often accompanied with flashes, sparks, loud bangs, spinning things and brightly colored lights. All the while he's lecturing about the underlying



Bill demonstrates the effects of a Tesla coil with a corona discharge spinner and energy transfer to light up a fluorescent tube. Note the copper coil inductance heater with water cooling in the center.

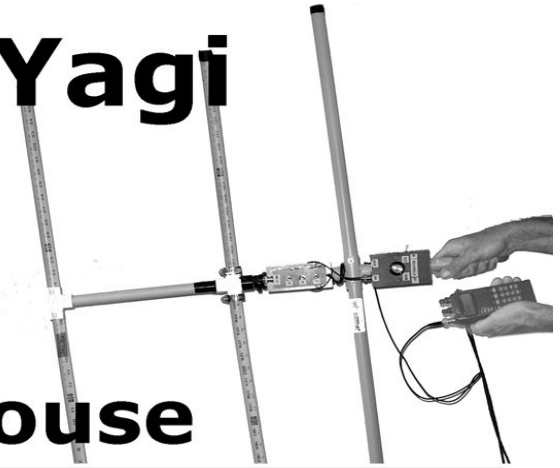
electronic principles in the engaging style of a 'Carnie'. Bill fabricates and assembles all this experimental gear for his search for knowledge and your enlightenment. If you have not seen Bill at a club meeting I strongly encourage you to attend a club General Meeting when Bill is featured as the program presenter. You will not be disappointed... and you will be current on the club business. Second thought; it's always a good idea to attend your club's General Meeting. **First Saturday of each month at 1:30 PM at the Eagles' Aerie #3, 4810 S. Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA** Doors open at 1:00PM. *Details & directions in the March BARK and at the club house.*

Tape Measure Yagi Building Party

for 5/20 Bunny Hunt

Sat, April 21 & 28

10:30 AM at Clubhouse



The Fine Print... Your Host is KR7W who will provide:

Pre-Cut PVC Pipe, Glue, Screws, Elec Tape, Coax w/ BNC connector, Necessary Hand tools, Soldering Iron + SWR Meter for testing.

Participant will Provide:

1 inch wide tape measure material (Harbor Freight not Preferred)

& Personal Protective Equipment. Bring \$10 CASH to cover materials.

**Sign up by April 15. Sign UP Sheet at Clubhouse or
or email KR7W = 599kr7w@gmail dot com**

No Sign Up and No \$10 = No Materials Provided

[CLICK to Email KR7W](#)

It's Back! By Popular Demand... Tape Measure Yagi Building Party

April, 2017— Rich KR7W held a building party for members who wished to build the popular Bunny Hunting Antenna— 'The TMY'. This Maker Event was a big success.

The 2018 BYO TMY Maker event will repeat this month. See poster above. Last year Rich asked for donations to cover his costs- the project went into the red.... This year the TMY builder will pay a \$10 cash fee and must sign up a week in advance so the provided materials— Precut PVC Pipe, Glue, Screws, Tape, and the hard to get Coax Cable with BNC connector installed— can be made ready— on hand.

The TMY Building Party Participant will use WB2HOL's design found here: http://theleggios.net/wb2hol/projects/rdf/tape_bm.htm



At the Kids Table- Members Mike and Jim measure twice and drill once. Instant gratification for a well built TMY is obtained from the MFJ Antenna Analyzer standing by. "Hey look. It measures 1.2 to one". (photo from 2017 event)

Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships

The 2018 USA championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) will take place June 13-17 near Truckee, California, which is along Interstate 80 about 100 miles northeast of Sacramento and 33 miles southwest of Reno, Nevada. The competition sites are at about 6300 feet elevation near Donner Summit.

An optional training day will be held on Wednesday, June 13. *See below.* Thursday will be devoted to foxoring, a combination of radio direction finding and classic orienteering. Friday morning will be the sprint event, followed by a model event for equipment testing and a competitor briefing.

Classic two-meter and 80-meter competitions will take place Saturday and Sunday, respectively. There will be an awards banquet on Saturday evening for presentation of medals for foxoring, sprint and two-meter classic. Awards for 80-meter classic will be given Sunday afternoon immediately after the competition, in time for those who must leave to get home.

The Event Information Page in the homingin.com Web site includes the technical details, lodging, site embargoes, tourism, weather and much more. Information about the sport of ARDF, including equipment and techniques, can also be found in this site. Registration will open soon.

Please pass this message along to anyone interested in on-foot hidden transmitter hunting.

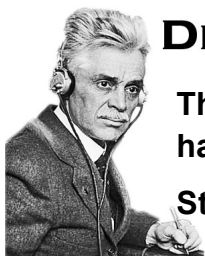
Thanks and 73,
Joe Moell K0OV
ARRL ARDF Coordinator
www.homingin.com

*See page 5 for information on the Radio Club
of Tacoma Bunny Hunt*



Wednesday, June 13

While not an official part of the competition, optional ARDF training will take place on Wednesday for practice of various aspects of ARDF. There are expected to be separate morning and afternoon sessions. Practice will concentrate on determining reliable bearings, interpreting reflected signals, probable control locations, course strategies, route choices, and other essentials for doing well. This training will be open to anyone who will be participating in the Championships. There will be a small fee for the training to cover maps and other expenses. The training venues will not include the competition areas. Regardless of IARU category, everyone is encouraged to attempt to find all transmitters. Exact location for gathering and parking will be announced.

Museum Report April 2018 by Rich KR7W**DID YOU KNOW?**

**The W7OS Museum
has a Mission
Statement?**

The Museum committee bases most things they do on this credo:

The purpose/mission of The Clifford J Doc Spike W7OS Museum is to preserve the history of amateur radio along with preserving the history of the club.

The mission shall be accomplished by:

1. The Museum shall maintain a collection of commercially made amateur radio equipment, home built amateur radio equipment, and suitable military made equipment that amateurs would have used in their stations 'back in the day'.
2. The Museum shall endeavor to provide operating antique amateur equipment (as described in # 1) set up as 'ham sets' or stations for club members and guests to use.
3. The Museum shall maintain a small library of antique publications (aside from the regular Club Library) housed within the museum for display and hands-on use.
4. The Museum shall endeavor to educate the membership about the interesting facets of Amateur Radio as it was 'back in the day' by publishing articles in the Bark and displays within the club house.

Randy WB4SPB reports: A second Eldico SSB-100F Transmitter was acquired for the Museum. This rare transmitter was found at the Mike'n'Key hamfest. Although in poor condition, it might supply a replacement power transformer for the Museum's own SSB100F, which is currently running on a power supply built from two old TV transformers shoehorned into the cabinet by Rich KR7W. At the hamfest table where the potential organ donor SSB100F resided, the proprietors could not give assurances regarding the condition of the radio's power transformer, and this made bargaining difficult. During the twilight hour of the hamfest (when desperation is at its highest and unsold items appear at their heaviest), the SSB100F was on offer for \$50. But even for that money it would have been a long walk to the parking lot with a boat anchor of unknown character. A donation to the Radio Club of Tacoma was solicited, but no one present had the necessary authority to make that happen. So, contact information was exchanged, in hopes that an appointment might be secured to examine and test the power transformer at a later date.



A week later, a call came: the estate of Pat Person K7YIR (SK) would donate the SSB100F to the Museum if only we would come and get it. So, one pleasant drive to the vicinity of Renton (and back) later, the SSB100F was dollied into the Museum attic at the RCT clubhouse. The transformer has not yet been tested, stay tuned.



Recently, Red WB7EC of the Property Management Team gifted the Museum some vacuum tubes and radio relics for the W7OS collection.



On Left is a Gonset Communicator II, circa 1956, also known as 'The Gooney Bird' due to the green magic eye tuning indicator in the upper center of the front panel and some models were painted yellow for use by Civil Defense organizations during the Cold War (CERT of yesteryear). The transmit frequency is Crystal Controlled (no VFO) and outputs 6 watts. The receiver is tunable 144 to 148 MCs. This radio precedes FM mobile radio communications and repeaters. The Poor Ham's Gooney Bird would be the Heathkit Twoer. Someday W7OS will be asking for Check Ins for the Two Meter AM Simplex Net. No worries, your Icom 746 Pro, IC7000, or maybe your Flex SDR is backwards compatible.

On the Right is a Harvey-Wells TBS50— a 30 watt output, crystal controlled AM transmitter. This radio operates 80 to 2 meters. Even though the Museum already has an operating TBS50, this transmitter was welcomed into the collection because it is in very nice shape— cosmetically. This year W7OS operated in the CW Classic Exchange boat anchor contest- and our Harvey TBS50 was mentioned as a favorite by other operators in the event. CW Speak: "TBS50 VY FB OM 73".

As mentioned last month, Museum members are attempting to restore a World War 2 Military BC-348 receiver— that was already modified by one or more hams. It was discovered that a previous ham owner performed modifications from a 1947 QST article— but not as the article prescribed. Work continues at KR7W's workshop to figure out which wire goes where. Stay tuned. -30-



Baluns explained by Richard Newstead, G3CWI

The word **balun** is shorthand for a **balanced** to **unbalanced** transformer. Antennas can be balanced or unbalanced. A balanced antenna is symmetrical about the feed point (e.g. a dipole) whereas an unbalanced antenna is not systematical about the feed point (e.g. a Windom). In the real world all antennas are unbalanced to some degree. Likewise feeders can be balanced (e.g. open wire line) or unbalanced (e.g. co-axial cable). When a balanced antenna is to be fed with co-axial cable, a balun is often used at the feed-point to provide a balanced to unbalanced transformation.

In the most common situation of a dipole fed with co-axial cable the aim is to ensure that all the RF currents flow inside the co-ax; these are called differential currents. Unfortunately some RF will flow on the outside of the cable; this is called a common-mode current. This common-mode current can cause problems on both transmit and receive. On transmit, the outside of the feeder becomes part of the radiating system of the antenna. This means that RF currents and voltages are present on the outer of the cable. Problems that can arise are that touching or moving the coax can change the SWR. Additionally RF is brought back into your shack, potentially causing RF feedback problems and sometimes affecting computers connected to your radio (such as those used for data modes). On receive, the whole co-axial feed-line acts as a long-wire antenna bringing RF noise into your shack. In both cases, because the feed-line is now part of the antenna system, the radiation pattern of the antenna is modified. These effects, caused by the common-mode currents, are undesirable.

There are two types of balun, Voltage baluns and current baluns. Voltage baluns produce a balanced voltage at their output and current baluns produce a balanced current. Current baluns are the most commonly used balun type and consist of a transmission line wound as a choke (inductance). At HF, common mode chokes often consist of a transmission line wound round some sort of ferrite core (a rod or toroid). For a balun to work effectively it must have a high impedance for common mode currents but a low impedance for differential mode currents. A rule-of-thumb is that a balun should have an impedance of not less than 10 times the transmission line impedance across its operating frequency range to be effective. However, like many rules-of-thumb, this is misleading. The impedance needed depends on the degree of common mode attenuation required and on the impedance of the feed-line at the point that the balun is being used. As the feed-line, in the case of common mode currents, is the outer of the co-axial cable, its impedance will not be related to the impedance of the co-axial cable itself. In such a case the feed-line is most appropriately modelled as a single wire.

All common-mode chokes have losses. Indeed these losses are essential to their operation. Common-mode currents are often dissipated as heat in the balun core. If a balun is getting hot it indicates an unbalanced system and/or an inadequate balun design. This heat is lost RF power and thus it makes sense to design your antenna system to minimize common-mode currents. A good balun will have a low loss for differential currents (the type of current that we generally want!).

Takeaway tips for reducing common mode currents:

1. Try to ensure as far as possible that the antenna is balanced (both sides are the same) and that the feed-point is in the center.
2. Run the feeder away from the antenna at right-angles to the antenna itself as far as is possible to reduce coupling.
3. Install an effective common-mode choke at the antenna feed-point.

Reprinted with permission of Richard Newstead, G3CWI, SOTABEAMS, Newsletter, 3/30/2018

SALMONCON XIII, 2018

July 14 and 15, 2018 at Valley Camp, in North Bend, WA

Free meals, beverages, and seminars plus a bunny hunt and activities for the kids

Tent & RV spaces and cabins are available at discounted fees

Call Tina and make your reservations NOW.

Watch your BARK for more details as they are firmed up.

Or go to the Pacific Northwest QRP group site for current information

<https://sites.google.com/site/pnwqrpgroup/salmoncon>



PRODUCT SHOWCASE - HAKKO 888D-23BY Soldering Station

Hakko FX888D-23BY soldering station (digital). This is a workhorse station that will last for many years. The package includes an iron holder with waterless cleaning material and sponge. 110/120 volt unit.

The Hakko FX-888D is an inexpensive yet durable digital temperature adjustable soldering station that provides more power and takes up less bench space than its predecessor (Hakko 936).

The added power of the FX-888D provides up to a 30% increase in thermal performance and faster thermal recovery time. Today, workbench space is at a premium, and the FX-888D uses approximately 35% less surface area compared to many other stations.

Other features include:

- * adjustable temperature control (digitally controlled)
- * temperature range 392°-896°F (200°- 480°C)
- * maintains idle temperature within 1.8°F (1°C)
- * ceramic heating element and sensor ensures rapid heat-up temperature and fast thermal recovery
- * Celsius and Fahrenheit temperature display
- * temperature adjusted by up/down control pad
- * slender iron handles are padded and have an ergonomic design for comfort and ease of use.
- * widely available and big selection of tip sizes and shapes



Editor's Note; I have personally used one of these stations for about 5 years now for both through-hole and SMD construction. It has worked flawlessly and all the above claims are valid. I had only one problem in that I left it on for several days and ruined the tip and holder due to oxidation. With proper care this is the last iron you'll ever need to buy. Price ranges from \$90.00 to \$110.00. pjh

This and That by Steve *AF7YD*

ANNOUNCING: In addition to our RCT account at Tacoma Screw Products, Radio Club of Tacoma now has an account at Grainger, <https://www.grainger.com>, another industrial supply company. Grainger is well known for stocking a wide variety of motors and they have much-much more. Grainger is located at 2802 Pacific Hwy E. 98424, in Fife, not far from the I-5 Puyallup River bridge and at 5 other Washington locations. If you are do-it-yourself person of any skill level have a look at their catalog. Whereas the Fife location has a great variety of stock on hand, don't expect too much. If it's not clear if the item is available from the local site from viewing the on-line catalog, call for a stock check. 1-800-472-4643

You will be able to order on line, and use your personal credit card. **DO NOT** use the default shipping address, which is the Radio Club of Tacoma, because there is no one available to receive shipments. If something disappears of the front porch, That's On You. Do use your own address when having items shipped. All purchases must be paid at the time of order. No invoices! Account Name: Radio Club of Tacoma

COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY 2018: The Communications Academy is an annual two-day Ham Radio conference with a many sessions dealing with Operating, Emergency/Disaster Organization and Communications, Technical Topics and a Beginners track. Taking place on April 14-15, at South Seattle Community College. It was great to see a number of members from Radio Club of Tacoma including, Larry, KD4VOM; Lucy, KG7ONN; Bob, AD7LJ; John, N7TES; Phil, K7PIA, and Niles N7SOI. Did I miss anyone?

Saturday's Keynote speaker, Robert Ezelle, Director of Washington Military Department's Emergency Management Division spoke to roles and relationships between levels of government and the capabilities each brings to a disaster response and recovery.

Sunday's Keynote speaker was Ward Silver, N0AX. Ward is well known for his ARRL books, including the ARRL Antenna manual and ARRL License guides. We were gifted with a light hearted conversation reflecting the many situations hams encounter in their communications endeavors. One quip of many, "Since we decided a few weeks ago to adopt the PL-259 as legal tender, we have of course, all become immensely rich".

I had been unaware that Ward has deep roots here in the Puget Sound – Vashon Island. In swapping stories we uncovered some mutual friends and experiences... Rush Drake, W7RM SK, Chip Margelli, K7JA and wife Janet, KL7MF, ... and many more.

Ward also presented sessions on Grounding and Bonding, and Contesting: Training for Public Service Radio Fitness. When you think about it, contesting is a great way of station, personal skill and confidence development. A couple of quotes, "An emergency is not the time to be learning basic operating skills" and "Contesting does NOT replace emergency procedural and organizational training". And with the leadership of Norm, N7OMS, W7DK is now moving to be on the air for as many contests as possible. Contesting at DK; What A Great opportunity for many of us who don't have operational HF stations at home to work on our "Fitness". *Hats off to Norm!*

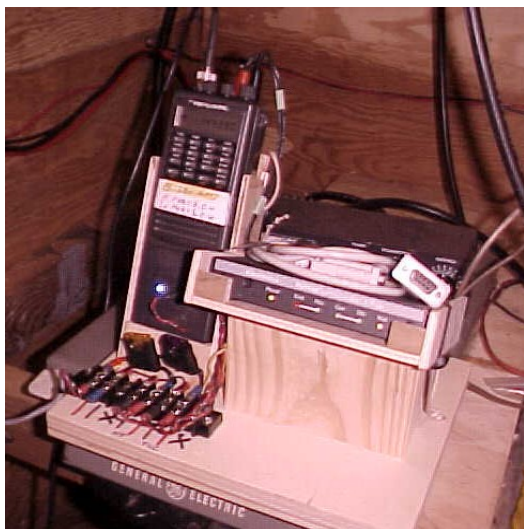
That's ***This and That*** for now.

Pack Forest Digital Repeater – K7MXE-6

Pack Forest (Charles L. Pack) is a 4300 plus acre research and demonstration forestland owned and operated by the University Of Washington. It was purchased with a bequeathed cash gift from Charles L. Pack in 1926.

K7MXE-6 is a gateway APRS station built by Rich KR7W. This picks up APRS signals on 144.39 MHz and sends them to the internet. The first station picked up on 3/17 was K7PIA-7. Rich built this breadboard at first then mounted it all in a box that fit the size of the small Astron power supply. The Astron P/S was picked up from a PMT sale on Saturday at the clubhouse. Inside is a low end Made in China Jetstream 144/440 radio you can buy new for less than 80 dollars. It gets the job done but lacks the frills found on better radios. The mini computer is a Raspberry PI unit using Linux. This replaced a home computer and PK232 system that ate up a lot of desk space and operated as K7MXE-2 and -4. Dash 4 was a 30 meter APRS used to follow K7LWE in his airplane as he headed to the Yukon every year to go fishing. This gateway uses a simple hairpin dipole antenna that had been on the 166 MHz commercial band but made longer with aluminum welding by Chuck AC7QN. SWR as checked on March 17 is perfect 1.0 to 1 on the MFJ259 analyzer. You can follow APRS signals picked up by checking k7mxe-6 on aprs.fi/k7mxe-6 on the internet. Thanks to Rich and Chuck for their hard work on this project. Bob K7MXE

For more information contact Bob K7MXE at k7mxe@mashell.com



W7PFR-1 APRS Digi Repeater
144.39mHz 1200baud



W7PFR 443.975 Repeater



Pack 9600 baud digi Kenwood D72

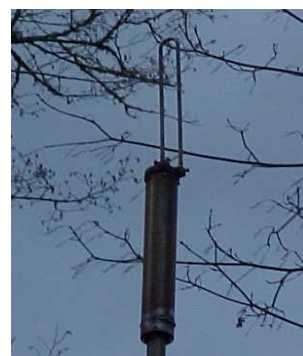
Gateway ARPS & Astron power supply



Equipment Building & Solar panels



Modified Hairpin Dipole



DAYTON HAMVENTION – 2018

May 18 – 19 – 20, 2018

At the GREENE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS & EXPO CENTER

120 Fairgrounds Road

Xenia, OH 45385

www.info@hamvention.org

Friday 9AM – 6PM Saturday 9AM – 5PM Sunday 9AM – 1PM



Property Management Team Sales

From the estate of Robert Gates K7IND



New radios that PMT will be selling next month. An ICOM IC-718 & IC-725. The radios are being tested and require BOD action before sale. As such, no prices yet. Many other items from the K7IND estate will be available to sell soon. Each Saturday, the PMT will have new items on SALE. We still have old items from last month's list that may not be on display until the last Saturday club 'swap'. If someone needs a certain item, let a PMT member know. The K7IND estate is from a ham that was licensed around 1958 and still has many items stored at his QTH. 73 from the PMT desk

RED WB7EC

Be sure to check out the radios and other gear for sale by the Property Management Team in last month's BARK or as posted in the clubhouse. Ed.



Leonard Burstiner KA7NWF our long time General Meeting Host and Raffle/Door Prize manager receives a well deserved plaque in recognition of his years of unflagging service and dedication. Sadly, Leonard must give up this position due to work and the new club meeting schedule conflicts. Leonard's good cheer and sense of humor will be missed.

Thank you Leonard.

Left; Mike Finnie W7MWF
Center; Leonard Burstiner KA7NWF
Right; Dave Ellison W7UUU



Amateur Radio Emergency Service

April 2018

Greetings,

This is the first in what I hope will be a series of articles about amateur radio and emergency communications.

The organization dedicated to this effort is the ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service. (ARES)

Some background...

In Pierce County ARES District 5 manages all ARES activity, training, exercises, and skill development. Pierce County ARES supports and meets at the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center.

ARES District 5 is composed of 5 area Emergency Teams, and Emergency Operations Centers e.g. Pierce County EOC, Lakewood EOC, Puyallup EOC Sumner, Buckley, Dupont, National Guard, Reston Senior Care Center and others. Most have weekly nets; check the ARES District 5 Website for nets and frequencies.

Membership registration is free to all FCC licensed amateur radio operators.

Most members have completed several FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses which are the National, Regional, State and Local basis for managing emergencies and disasters.

Pierce County District 5 Website <http://www.piercecountyares.net/web>

ARES Membership Application <http://www.piercecountyares.net/web/application>

ARES Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PierceCountyARES/files/>

ARES Information and Communications Plan frequencies:

Look For Team and EOC frequencies and other ARES information at the W7DK.org Website, using the following link:

http://www.w7dk.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=46&Itemid=111

Coming Events/Training

(Location is Pierce County Emergency Operations Center) unless otherwise indicated

28 April 2018: 9 to Noon Saturday **Digital Traffic and Setup** - KJ7UI Al Zuck

17 May 2018: 7pm Thursday **NTS Traffic Training and Drill** - Jim Nicollet

6 June 2018: 7 pm Thursday **Connectors** W7BBO Mark Yordy and 30 June Exercise Preparation

30 June 2018 9 to Noon Saturday – Quarterly EmComm Statewide Exercise

ARES Meetings

ARES District 5 Meets Monthly on the Third Thursday at 7 pm

Pierce County Emergency Operations Center

Meetings always have a program, normally an EmComm Training Focus

Larry Watson KD4VOM

Secretary Pierce County ARES

Kd4vom@mailcan.com

When you need amateur radio, you really need it!

Opportunities and contesting by Al, N7OMS

Often, when you begin with one question it raises others. These new questions, when answered, hopefully light the way to answering the first question. I learned that while working for the phone company. If you wish to understand that principle further then offer to buy the first round and we can talk about it.

With the question of "how do we get more members to use the club equipment?" I am finding the above to still hold true. If members are going to use the equipment we have to assume they know how. We have many different kinds of radios from different eras with all the various supporting equipment. It could be a difficult task unless you happen to have such equipment skills already in your tool belt. Many of us don't. So where does that leave us?

Having the clubhouse open for some contesting is just a small part of a complete answer. It really comes down to time. The amount of time you can have with the stations. You could learn with some member support or just you, the radio, and the manual. Okay, you Google, you search YouTube and you operate the radio. Skip the manual. You might be surprised to learn how much those two online resources are used around the club house.

Here are some times when members could have access to the clubhouse without the pass codes and the keys. Saturdays, of course, but with a crowd. There are the technician classes almost every month. Those are held on Saturday and Sunday. There has been Extra class training on Mondays. As long as you don't disrupt the class you should be fine. The fourth Wednesday usually has the stations available with some good Elmer support on site. We have a board meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. While they run the club down stairs we could be hunting DX upstairs. These are a few of the opportunities each month when you could plan on station access.

Let's explore another avenue you could pursue. Volunteer for one of the standing committees. Stepping forward to help with some of the many tasks that arise with managing the club house and the various pieces of equipment inside. We usually have time to play with the radios during these events. Something else to consider is running for office. If elected you get club house access and that opens a whole world of possibilities. Or even asking for help from your board members or officers could result in some prearranged training or just some DX chasing.

Using a club station does require members to recognize some responsibilities. Many of the same ones we have with our own stations. Also the responsibilities spelled out by the FCC for your license class. There are also some that are unique to the Radio Club of Tacoma.

In an upcoming Bark I will try to help with some of the ones that are unique to the Radio Club of Tacoma. Even as I write this, questions are popping up in my brain. Hopefully by reaching out to my fellow members I can bring you some answers in the coming months.

We are very lucky to have a club house and I know that many different conditions surround your reasons for membership. Please be aware that the stations usage is part of your membership and there are other members that will help with making that happen. Getting more involved has many rewards. At least it has for me.

Al N7oms

Al has committed to a recurring article for the BARK discussing opportunities to use the club's many radios and operating these radios in contesting situations as well as offering insight into how the rigs work. Ed. pjh

A WORD FROM THE ARRL . . . By Joe Lester, K7ZG

Operating an amateur radio station in an antenna restricted neighborhood can be a challenge. The ARRL has been working for years to have the FCC address the disparity between local laws and regulations, federally preempted under PRB-1, and the limitations on outdoor antennas imposed by private contracts that can be enforced by homeowners associations or HOAs. Earlier this year, the chair of the ARRL Legislative Action Committee (Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco) testified before a session of the Senate Commerce Committee in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act (S.1534). Lisenco explained how private land use regulations can preclude amateur radio disaster capabilities if the licensed amateur does not have an effective outdoor antenna ready to be pressed into service on a moment's notice. Those of our club's members who operate under limitations imposed by CC&R antenna restrictions will want to pay attention. At the moment, it appears the legislation that was intended to pave the way for effective outdoor antennas in HOA governed communities will likely not pass before the end of the year. The result is we now have language in the bill informing radio amateurs and HOA managers as to what can be expected in the future if and when the FCC acts to grant parity in these situations, with or without the endorsement of the US Congress. The ARRL position is that HOAs can preclude amateur antennas in common areas and can enact reasonable rules governing height, location, size, and aesthetic impact of, and installation requirements for outdoor antennas and support structures for amateur communications, but the effective outdoor antenna requirement is paramount. Looking ahead, it appears that hams living under HOA rules limiting antennas will be handling more paperwork, preparing documents describing the proposed outdoor antennas, support structures, and installation details. These documents will need to be approved by the HOA before the outdoor antennas are installed. This may result in some uncertainty as to what the rules are (or will become) and what types of antennas will or will not be approved. Some hams may choose to remain "undocumented" under the radar if they have deployed inconspicuous outdoor antennas without objection from neighbors. For others, the changing requirements for approval may provide an opportunity to become better organized and go for approval of somewhat more elaborate types of antennas, recognizing that each situation will be different. The ARRL has said it supports the language of the ARPA bill, but is concerned that Congress will take no action on telecommunications legislation this year. Therefore, the ARRL is urging the FCC to take action on its own initiative to establish reasonable regulations and procedures for giving notice and seeking approval for effective outdoor antennas. Our club's affiliation with the ARRL extends back to 1920. In order to retain our status as an ARRL Special Service Club, we need at least 51% ARRL membership. If you'd like to join the ARRL, that would be great. You can do so online on the website arrl.org.



Radio Club of Tacoma
General Meeting Agenda
March 14, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1930 by President Dave W7UUU at **the Pierce County Library Admin Building**

Officers and Directors Present

President Dave Ellison W7UUU
Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary Mike Finnie W7MWF
Board Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board Phil Pia K7PIA
Board Adam Barbera W2NCC
Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mike W7MKE

Health and Welfare

Silent Keys and Illness Bud Mitze K7BUD RCT #1695 SK March 3, 2018

Welcome and Self-Introductions

Guests – no guests were present
New Calls – Ralph's new call NU7G formerly W7MPF
Self-introductions were undertaken. 30 individuals signed the attendance roster.

Secretary's Report (W7MWF) Usual stuff: periodicals, utility bills, bank statements, membership renewals, Real Estate and Personal Property Tax bills. Invitations to assist Boy Scouts with fulfillment of merit badge requirements AND to participate in Jamboree on the Air Oct 19-21. Both invitations under consideration at present pending additional details.

Treasurer's Report Mike W7MWF on behalf of Steve AF7YD reports all current bills have been paid and all deposits into the bank.

Committee / Activity Reports

Membership George K7GRS reported 252 active members

Training Technician Class was held March 11/12. Next class is scheduled for April 7/8
General Class Training (N7HT) will be held Jan 22 through March 26 (10 sessions). Dave N7HT reports that an additional General Class license training will be held April 16, through June 18, 2018. Dave also reports a training opportunity at the Senior Center in Ruston.

VE Report John AC7WW provided the VE Report, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The next VE Session will be held April 10

HF Operations Phil K7PIA reported that all systems working well in the HF room. The Flex has been installed at the second operating position.

Repeater Ops It was noted that an unidentified jammer interrupted the Tuesday net on the .28 repeater.

IT Report Randy WB4SPB advised no reports of anomalous conditions. Everything is working within normal expected parameters.

Museum Randy WB4SPB reports continued reorganization in the museum.

Facilities Mgmt It was noted that there are several ongoing maintenance projects in the works.

Prop Mgmt Bruce WB7EC reported that Mike and Key Flea Market sales exceeded \$1300, February club sales exceeded \$300, and the February raffle proceeds was \$55.

4th Weds Activity Night - The March presentation will be a rendition of "Welcome to Amateur Radio" led by Randy. It is geared to both new and old hams alike.

New Business

Beginning April 7, 2018 all future Monthly General Meetings will be held on the first Saturday of each month from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the **Tacoma Eagles Aerie #3, 4810 S TACOMA WAY.**

Unfinished Business and Announcements

Hidden Transmitter Hunt – Sunday May 20, 2018 Fort Nisqually Shelter Area, Pt. Defiance Park

Attenuator Construction – Upcoming blurb on club website and posted in clubhouse

ARDF Yagi Construction – KR7W will be hosting 2 Saturday antenna building sessions. Watch email/website/posters for dates and more specific details including material requirements and costs.

Adam W2NCC - 3 announcements:

2018 Field Day will be at Western State Hospital grounds as in the past.

Field Day Planning Session Saturday Mar 17 1pm at the clubhouse

Late chance to participate in the MFJ bulk order

Program A presentation of incomparable excitement from our own world-renowned Mad Scientist Wild Bill Wright AD7QI was the entertainment tonight. Sparks flew and smoke swirled, and to the amazement of everyone there were no injuries or damages

Tuning and Traffic Phil K7PIA, Red WB7EC and PJ N7PH reported on recent contacts.

Special Award Ceremony & Certificate Presentation Leonard KA7NWF was recognized with a special services certificate for his long tenure as greeter and prize coordinator for over 10 years. Because of the change of dates and location for monthly meetings, Leonard will no longer be able to perform these duties. Thanks Leonard for your years of selfless service.

Door Prize was won by Ron K6HSB

Raffle Prize was won by Kerry KI7LTV

Adjournment was at 2046 and we bade farewell to the library facility.

Radio Club of Tacoma
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1900 PST by Dave W7UUU, President .

Officers and Directors Present;

President Dave Ellison W7UUU
Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ
Secretary Mike Finnie W7MWF
Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD
Board Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Paul Matney W7PFU
Board Adam Barbera W2NCC
Board Red Cranefield WB7EC
Board Phil Pia K7PIA

A Quorum was present. 16 members signed the roster, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

Silent Key or Illness? It was sadly noted that Bud Mitze K7BUD RCT #1695 became a SK on March 3, 2018. A minute of silence was observed in memory of him and other silent keys. In Bud's Honor, this year's Spring Bunny Hunt will be named the K7BUD Memorial Hidden Transmitter Hunt.

The Minutes of the February 7, 2018 Board Meeting were approved as circulated.

Secretary's Report Mike W7MWF reported receipt of the usual Correspondence: Building Insurance Renewed, Memberships, Utilities, Subscriptions. Bank Statements, Tax bills (real estate \$3705.17)(personal property \$32.49) RE + \$436, PP - \$10

Treasurer's Report Steve AF7YD reported all bills paid and monies deposited.

Committee / Reports

Membership George K7GRS reported that membership stands at 248.

Training

- Tech License Training Mar 10/11
- General License Training Jan 22 through Mar 26
- VE Testing Mar 13
- Dave N7HT reports that another General Class license training will be held April 16, through June 18, 2018

Info Tech Randy WB4SPB reported that everything is working OK. He also advised that he has installed an animated GIF on the home page of the club website.

HF Operations Phil K7PIA reported all the gear is working Fine Business. The Flex has been configured and is occupying the 2nd operating position in the HF Room. He also reported on upcoming contests and re-

sults of the recent DX contest in which over 190 QSOs were made with many multipliers. About 10 members operated.

Repeater Ops It was reported that the primary 147.280 repeater is sounding very good.

Facilities Mgmt Bruce WE7P advised that he and Al N7OMS have been screening bird-holes in the structures. Other maintenance projects are still in progress or pending materials.

Property Mgmt Red WB7EC reported February sales were \$313 and raffle of a power supply generated \$55. He said that PMT is prepared and eager for the upcoming M&K Swap meet.

Museum Randy WB4SPB updated the audience about the W7OS participation in the Phone Classic Exchange contest. Three rigs were used and multiple operators made contacts.

Weds Workshop Presentation Topic TBA

General Meeting Dave W7UUU advises that this month's program will be the "The Wild Bill Mad Scientist Show" featuring AC7QN.

Unfinished Business

AED Status Bob K7MXE and Steve AF7YD advised that the search of a donation continues.

General Meeting Facility Dave W7UUU reported that the contract with Eagles Aerie #3 has been signed and we will hold general meetings on the first Saturday of each month from 1-3 pm in April and beyond. A hearty round of applause was given to Dave and to Anne N7ANN for their tireless efforts in securing a suitable meeting venue.

Electric Panel work crew Al N7OMS reports still putting a crew together and will provide updates soon.

New Business

Motions were made to rescind action to hold the April general meeting at clubhouse. Motion carried.

WB4SPB Randy - Request to permit use of Winifred Dow photos by W5KNE. After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and passed to permit publication of RCT intellectual and historical items by select other individuals or entities provided the publication of such items is for a non-commercial use, provides attribution to the Radio Club of Tacoma, and is approved by the Club Historian. The Historian will notify club leadership of each instance of such limited publication license being granted.

N.B. Follow-up: On March 12, Club Historian Doug AD7AV notified via email to President Dave W7UUU, Secretary Mike W7MWF, and Randy WB4SPB that he authorizes the request by Bob Winn W5KNE subject to the aforementioned conditions. A copy of Doug's email is filed with these minutes.

WB4SPB Randy - on behalf of Larry KD4VOM – Promotion of ARES events using RCT Email Broadcasts This request was submitted and general discussion to cooperate and support the ARES mission with use lim-

ited use of our email broadcast capability. The request was generally receive positively, but the Board felt we had insufficient information regarding timing, volume and frequency of their notifications to fully commit. The request was tabled pending further details being provided.

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

K7MXE Bob - Tree removal discussion and suggestion - It was brought to our attention that several trees may at some point become nuisance or hazardous. Discussions ensued with no clear direction regarding tree removal established. This issue was tabled until members of the Board and other interested members have an opportunity to perform inspection and evaluations during the daylight.

W7MWF Items:

- Jack Kalina WA7VDI requested RCT to assist Boy Scout troop with merit badge. Mike will follow up with him.
- Oct. 19/ 20 / 21 our local Mt. Tahoma District, Pacific Harbors Council, BSA is having a Fall Camporee at Ski Lake Park, a private, gated lake and acreage 5 miles SE of Orting. Mike will continue to stay in contact with the local BSA leadership.

AF7YD Steve - How might RCT help in facilitating member cooperation and participation and support of ARES in Tacoma/PC?

General discussion was held concerning our support of ARES and club member participation in their activities. Several suggestions were made including a monthly column in the club newsletter regarding ARES. Other solutions and ideas will be explored and further discussed at a future board meeting when appropriate.

Announcements

Mike and Key Ham fest March 10.

Adjournment was at 2010 PDT

Respectfully submitted
Mike W7MWF
RCT Secretary

THE CLUB LINEUP

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Dave Ellison, W7UUU - w7uuu@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis, W7XTZ - w7xtz@w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Finnie, W7MWF - w7mwf@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd@w7dk.org

5 BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p@w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu@w7dk.org

Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc@w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec@w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia@w7dk.org

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LOGGER'S BARK STAFF

Editor: P. J. Hicks, N7PH - hickspj467@comcast.net

Contributors: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma

ARRL Liaison: Joe Lester, K7ZG - 73radio@gmail.com

Send articles to: hickspj467@comcast.net, or Radio Club of Tacoma, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98111

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MEMBERSHIP INFO: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) membership is \$35 per calendar year or \$30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia @ 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3